

Message Text

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12

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 AID-20 EB-11 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 RSR-01

/135 W

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R 280651 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7010

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

COMIDEASTFOR

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI POUCH

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 2265

FROM QUINLAN MUSCAT

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MU IR EAID

SUBJ: IRANIAN ECONOMIC AID TO OMAN

REF: JIDDA 1982

1. IN COURSE DISCUSSION REPORTED SEPTTEL OMANI FONMIN TOLD ME OMAN WILLING TO ACCEPT IRANIAN ECONOMIC AID BUT WOULD NOT MAKE REQUEST BECAUSE OMAN UNWILLING ACCEPT " CONDITIONS" AND OMAN HAS TERRITORIAL PROBLEM WITH IRAN WHICH HE COULD NOT DISCUSS. HE DID NOT MENTION SENSITIVITIES OTHER ARAB STATES IN THIS CONTEXT BUT DWELT ON ARAB SENSITIVITY TO GROWING IRANIAN MILITARY POWER AND IRANIAN MILITARY AID TO OMAN.

2. IN LATER BRIEF TALK, UNDER SECRETARY AHMAD MAKKI ALSO BROUGHT
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UP PROBLEM OF IRANIAN AID. MAKKI TOO REFERRED TO ARAB CRITICISM OF IRANIAN- OMANI RELATIONSHIP, AND ADDED THAT OMANI PUBLIC HAD LONG MEMORY OF PERSIAN OCCUPATION OF INTERIOR AND COASTAL OMAN IN CENTURIES PAST. MAKKI ALSO SAID THAT WHILE IN IRAN IN MAY HE HAD TOLD PRIME MINISTER HOVEYDA THAT IRANIAN PUBLIC STATEMENTS ABOUT AID TO OMAN WERE NOT HELPFUL.

3. I CITED (IN CONFIDENCE) EMBASSY JIDDA' S VIEW OF PROBABLE SAUDI ATTITUDE TO IRANIAN AID FOR OMAN IN DISCUSSION WITH ECONOMIC ADVISER TOWNSEND, WHO WAS SURPRISED AND IMPRESSED. TOWNSEND THEN SAID HE WOULD NOT QUOTE EMBASSY BUT WOULD " CONTINUE TO NAG" SULTAN QABOOS IN DIRECTION OF AID REQUEST TO IRAN. ASKED AGAIN WHETHER IRANIANS HAVE EVER MADE AID OFFERS, TOWNSEND MENTIONED SHAH' S PROPOSAL FOR " GULF INVESTMENT BANK" HAD BEEN DISCUSSED IN OMAN BUT NOTHING DEFINITE OFFERED.

4. TOWNSEND ADDED THAT PART OF OMAN' S AID PUZZLE IS FACT THAT WHILE POTENTIAL FOR AID (SAUDI, ABU DHABI, QATARI, AND NOW KUWAITI) IS POSITIVELY DAZZLING, VERY LITTLE SPECIFIC IS NOW IN HAND. IF REQUESTS ARE SCATTERED TOO BROADLY OMAN MIGHT LATER BE INNUNDATED WITH AMOUNTS COUNTRY UNABLE TO ABSORB. MCCLELLAND

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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